

REMARKS

In the present Preliminary Amendment, claim 7 has been amended to cure a multiple dependency improper under U.S. practice. New claim 24 has been added to maintain the same scope of coverage.

Similarly, claim 11 has been amended to cure a multiple dependency or format improper under U.S. practice. New claim 25 has been added to retain the same scope of coverage.

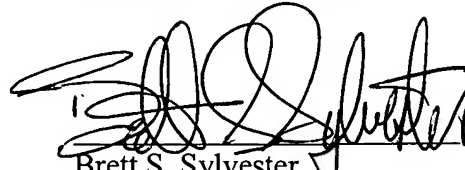
Claim 17 had been amended to cure a multiple dependency or format improper under U.S. practice, and new claim 26 has been added to retain the same scope of coverage.

New claim 27, which corresponds to claim 21, has been added to maintain the same scope of coverage as original claim 21 in view of the Amendment adding new claim 26.

The public should be informed that these amendments are not being made for reasons relating to patentability.

Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


Brett S. Sylvester
Registration No. 32,765

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

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